Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

News UPDATE

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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December 1993 MONTANA STATE LIBRARY 1515 E. 6th AVE. HELENA, MONTANA 59620 Update No. 33

MLA Annual Conference: MLA's 81st Annual Conference will be held April 24-27, 1994, Copper King Inn, Butte. The theme will be, "Libraries Coping with Change." The keynote speaker will be John Tyson, State Librarian of Virginia. For more information, contact Sue Nissen (496-5000) or Diane Glop (723-5978).

MLA Conference Grants and Call for Papers: Members of MLA are encouraged to contact Leza Hamby (363-3211) for details about individual CE and travel grants for the conference. Deadline for application is February 15, 1994. MLA's Academic & Special Libraries Division is sponsoring a "Contributed Paper" program at the annual conference. Six 15-minute talks will be given; if interested in participating, contact Kathy Kaya at MSU's Renne Library (994-5312).

LSCA Grant Awards: On Dec. 8th, the State Library Commission awarded a Title I LSCA grant to the Arlee community to increase access to both the school and public library collections. Title III grants were awarded to the Lewis & Clark Library, Helena to provide Internet training; the Bitterroot Public Library for resource sharing; and to the Great Falls Public Library for DOS/ Windows workshops.

State Library Wins Award: Diane Gunderson, Library Development staff, returned from a recent trip to Alexandria, Virginia with the FSCS NCES/NCLIS Francis Keppel Award in hand. Each state library which submits statistics on all its public libraries and on time receives an abacus complete with plaque for this attainment.

LC Center for the Book & Head Start Partnership: Library Development staff Gaye Walter attended the western regional Library-Head Start Partnership Project workshop in Sacramento in December. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a tentative plan for each state so that libraries and Head Start programs work together. A video, guide and resource notebook are envisioned.

Special Session: The special legislative session has ended. The pluses include: 1) The $63,957 piece of per capita/per square mile state aid survived; 2) the Census and Economic Information Center in the Dept. of Commerce general fund was restored. The negatives include biennial cuts in the State Library budget of 1) $15,000 in state aid administration; 2) personal services of $27,000, added to reduction made during the last regular legislative session; and 3) $18,000 in the institutions' book budget.

NRIS Annual Report: The State Library's Natural Resource Information System recently completed its FY 93 annual report. NRIS filled over 1400 requests for natural resource information. The **Natural Heritage Program** responded to over 600 information requests and published more than 20 reports. The Heritage Program's database has been loaded onto the U.S. Forest Service Region I mainframe computer in Missoula. Now USFS personnel in all of Region I--down to the Ranger District level--can directly access this database. The **Water Information System** responded to nearly 300 information requests, conducted the second year of the Montana Drought Monitoring System, and began work on a Groundwater Atlas for Montana. The **Geographic Information System** responded to over 500 service and information requests, plotted over 3300 maps, and worked on over 15 separate GIS projects. Copies of the annual report are available by calling NRIS at 444-5354.

ADA Award to Bozeman Public Library: Bozeman Public Library received a certificate of appreciation from the Montana Independent Living Project for "participation in the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act in making Montana accessible to all citizens." This group covers 14 counties and Yellowstone Park.

MLA Public Library Retreats: The annual Public Library Retreats have been scheduled for February 4 & 5 in Havre, and February 11 & 12 in Livingston. Registration forms will be mailed to all public and school libraries at the end of December. Schools may find the Livingston retreat of particular interest.

MLA Interim Financial Secretary: MLA seeks to fill this position temporarily to replace departing staff and until organizational changes are completed. The person will keep the membership list, financial records, and write checks. For info. contact MLA Pres. Jane Howell at 657-2320.

Statewide Video Coop: Butte Public Library houses a collection of 600 some videos on every subject imaginable. It has recently added 30 new juvenile and adult titles. The videos are available for loan @ $2.00 per title plus return postage; call 723-3361, Reference Desk for info.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January	14	Library Services Advisory Council -- Helena
	17	State Holiday -- Martin Luther King Day
	21	WLN Board Meeting -- Seattle
	28	MLA Board Meeting -- Bozeman
February	4-5	MLA Public Library Division Retreat -- Havre
	4-10	ALA Midwinter Meeting -- Los Angeles
	11-12	MLA Public Library Division Retreat -- Livingston
	21	State Holiday -- Presidents' Day
	23	State Library Commission -- Helena

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